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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Thursday 20th April 2023
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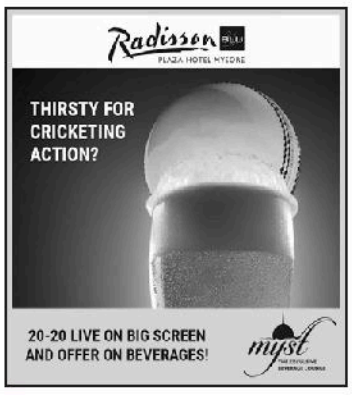


Today last day to file nomination

KR Constituency BJP candidate T.S. Srivatsa (centre) seen with (from left) State BJP General Secretary Siddaraju, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, MLA S.A. Ramdas and Mayor Shivakumar before filing nomination today at MCC Main Office in city.

Mysuru, Apr. 20 (MTY&DM)- With today being the last day for the filing of nomination papers, candidates were seen heading to their respective Office of the Electoral Officer in the city and district this morning.

In the city, Krishnaraja (KR) Constituency BJP candidate T.S. Srivatsa filed his nomination papers at the MCC Main Office on New Sayyaji Rao Road. He presented his papers to Returning Officer (RO) P. Ravikumar, CESC General Manager (Administration-HRD).

Earlier, Srivatsa, as a show of strength, took out a massive procession standing in an open vehicle, from 101 Ganapati Temple in Agrahara to the MCC Office. He was accompanied by two other main BJP aspirants — sitting MLA S.A. Ramdas and former MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev — and a host of other party leaders.

The procession was accompanied by a host of folk and cultural troupes.

Speaking before the procession, Srivatsa said he is an ordinary BJP worker and the party has given him the ticket, for which he is extremely happy.

(See NOMINATION on page 7)

Modi surname slur defamation case

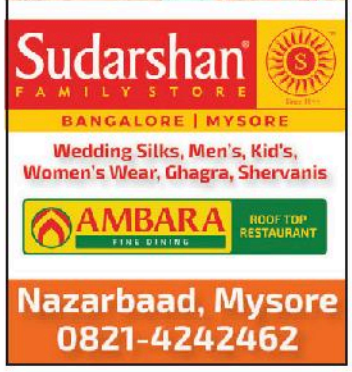
No relief for Rahul Gandhi as Surat Court rejects request

Rahul Gandhi

Surat, Apr. 20 (Agencies)- In a setback for Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, a Sessions Court in Surat this morning rejected his plea for stay on his conviction by a Magistrate Court in a criminal defamation case against him over his 'Modi' surname slur.

Additional Sessions Judge Robin Mogera refused to stay the conviction. This would mean that Gandhi would continue to stand disqualified from Lok Sabha and cannot be reinstated.

(See RAHUL on page 7)



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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 20th April 2023

Hindustani Music Concerts

Aditya Joshi

Raghavendra

Mysuru, Apr. 20- Gayana Sabha, Mysuru, has organised Hindustani Classical Music concerts on Saturday (Apr. 22) at Ganabharathi in Kuvempunagar starting at 5.30 pm.

Aditya Joshi of Hubballi and disciple of Sameer Rao, (internationally renowned flautist from Mysuru), will present Bansuri recital, followed by vocal rendering by Raghavendra Bhat of Sagar. They will be accompanied by Bheemashankar Bidanur on tabla and Sathish Bhat Heggara on harmonium.

Aditya's musical journey began early at the age of five. He was initiated into music by his parents and continued under Krishna Joshi. Presently, he is taking advanced training from Sameer Rao.

Raghavendra Bhat is a disciple of the doyen of Jaipur Gharana Vid. Alka Deo Marulkar and is a notable Hindustani vocalist from among younger generation of Karnataka. He adapted a new vocal style of his own by the influence of Kirana and Jaipur gayaki style. He sings khyal, thumri, bhajans, abhangs, dasavani and other genre.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Swing/floating voters have assumed importance in elections across the world. Some psephologists call them 'persuadable voters.' Generally, voters differ in their degree of uncertainty. In US Presidential elections, for example, swing voters and swing states have been the key to victory since the 1990s. However, in elections across the world, the reasons for the voter's shift are complicated and unpredictable, especially in these hyper-polarised times. The issue in Karnataka is, who, among the BJP, Congress and the JD(S), can persuade them to vote in their favour.

Technically, there are two images of a swing voter, namely those who are undecided about which party to vote for, and those voters who do not necessarily vote for the same party each time. In that sense, the swing voters have their misgivings about each of the parties. It is for the parties to persuade them.

Traditionally, the swing voters constitute the 'silent majority' and their votes tend to get divided among the Congress, BJP and JD(S). In the coming elections, a variety of factors could influence swing voters. These vary from anti-incumbency, the Modi factor, money power, corruption, the Lingayat-Vokkaliga factor, the Muslim factor, poll promises, etc. The history of Karnataka elections suggests that even a minor swing could make a huge impact on the results.

The May 2023 elections are crucial for the BJP, but more so for the Congress. So far, no party has won consecutive elections in Karnataka in the last 20 years. There is always the possibility that the swing voter could make a crucial difference. The swing voter constitutes an unpredictable powerhouse since the undecided can still be the decider. The toughest part for the BJP, Congress and JD(S) will be to try and mobilise the non-voters and to persuade the swing voters. Hence the challenge is to strike a balance between mobilisation and persuasion. — *M.J. Vinod in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

3.29-carat gem at Crater of Diamonds Park

Arkansas: Arkansas State Parks said a visitor to Crater of Diamonds State Park recently unearthed a 3.29-carat brown diamond, the largest found at the park. Officials wrote in a news release that David Anderson of Murfreesboro was wet-sifting soil from the park's West Drain area when he spotted something shiny.

At first I thought it was quartz but wondered why it was so shiny, Anderson told park officials. Once I picked it up, I realized it was a diamond!

Anderson said he has been a frequent visitor to the park during the past 16 years and has found more than 400 diamonds, including a 6.19-carat white diamond in April 2014. H dubbed his latest discovery B.U.D. That's for 'Big, Ugly Diamond,' he said. Officials said Anderson's diamond is the largest discovery at the park since a 4.38-carat yellow diamond was discovered in Sept. 2021.

Triplets set record as most premature birth

Bristol: Three sisters from the UK have broken two Guinness World Records - for being the lightest and most premature triplets to survive. Rubi-Rose, Payton-Jane and Porscha-Mae Hopkins weighed a total of 1.28kg when they were born. The trio were born on 14 February 2021 and are now happy two-year-olds.

The trio spent 216 days in the neonatal intensive care unit at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, according to a Guinness World Records press note. They are dizygotic triplets, meaning Rubi-Rose has a unique genetic makeup whilst Payton-Jane and Porscha-Mae are identical twins. Rubi-Rose was born first, at 10:33 a.m., weighing 467 g (1 lb). After Rubi-Rose's birth, Michaela was rushed to the operating theatre for an emergency C-section. Payton-Jane and Porscha-Mae were delivered at 12:01 and 12:02 p.m respectively, one and a half hours after their sister. Payton-Jane weighed 402 g (0.89 lb); Porscha-Mae was 415 g (0.91 oz).

HEALTH CAPSULE

Leaking of urine when there is pressure on your bladder is the top sign of stress urinary incontinence.

By Dr. Dinesh Kumar T. P. - Consultant – Urology and Andrology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

VVCE signs Cyber Security pact with ISAC

Mysuru, Apr. 20 - **Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering (VVCE),** Mysuru and **Information Sharing and Analysis Centre (ISAC)** recently signed a cyber security pact, an important step in terms of technology usage and cyber capability development. It helps in enriching faculty development programmes, cyber range labs, hackathons, National Security Database (NSD). Also, learning related to cyber security will be possible in small and medium scale industries, startups.

Prof. B. Sadashive Gowda, VVCE Principal, said "This is the internet world. The help of technology has accelerated the availability of information. In this context, cyber security has gained importance today. Also, the agreement will help create professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to tackle the challenges of the digital age. Today there are more than 35 lakh vacancies in various industries and the demand is increasing day by day. So this agreement has raised a new expectation in terms of creating skilled resources."

"This agreement creates a unique bond between our organisation and ISAC. It bridges the gap between academia and industry. It will help to meet the needs of the industry, drive innovation and growth in the sector. We aim to produce professionals at various levels related to cyber security, creating a conducive environment for learning and development. Above all, it will help shape the future of cyber security education in India," he added.

ISAC Director Group Captain (Retd.) Anand Naidu, who also spoke said, "In this era of cyber threats, advanced technologies are indispensable for safe storage of data and details. This pact is a symbol of the administration's unlimited power to create awareness among students and enable enrollment in the national security database. It provides students with access to several career opportunities in the field of cyber security. He said that it will help in shaping a secure future."

Benefits

This agreement comes as the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) is launching a Global Technology Centre in Mysuru. KDEM and ISAC collaboration will support the progress of NSD and Clean Exit. It also allows for the creation of talents in various divisions of organisations like Cyber Aware Netizens (CAN), Cadets, Falcons, Guardians, Lancers. According to government sources, in 2022, CERT-IN tracked only 13.91 lakh cyber security incidents. However, in August last year, a senior Google executive reported that 18 million cyber attacks were recorded per day.

REALLY...?

- ***The world's fastest-growing flower is the bamboo orchid, which can grow up to 12 inches in a single day.***
- ***Flowers are interesting not just for their beauty but also for their medicinal properties. For example, the Aloe vera plant is commonly used to treat burns and wounds.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

What happened when the world's tongue-twister champion got arrested? They gave him a tough sentence!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 82.19
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.14
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 22.38
1 Euro	= Rs.90.06

VOICE OF THE READER

Frequent power cut hits Chamundi Township dwellers

Sir,

I am a resident of Chamundi Township in Sujathapuram, Nanjangud, since 2018.

In the last one-and-a-half years, we have been facing frequent electricity related issues. Worst was when the transformer linked power surge damaged my home appliances thrice and I had to shell out nearly Rs. 20,000 to get them repaired.

Another connected issue is, every time there is a fluctuation in power supply, entire street-lights on the main road (where my house is located) go off. Despite repeated requests, the lights are not replaced for weeks.

In the latest case, street-lights went off due to power surge on Jan.23 and till now the lights have not been replaced, in spite of making repeated requests to local site manager. Reason: No lights in spare!

I request the MUDA authorities concerned to take up the matter (both related to frequent issues with transformer and street-light replacement) with the layout management and ensure such delays do not recur in future.

—Dr. A. Gopinath
Nanjangud
20.3.2023

Rotary-Silicon Journalism Award presented

SITTING FROM LEFT: ***K.P. Nagaraj, Bureau Chief,*** *Public TV,* ***Mysuru and S. Udaya Shankar, Principal Photo-Journalist of*** *The New Indian Express,* ***Mysuru, were conferred with Rotary-Silicon Journalism Award 2022-23 for Excellence in Journalism at a programme organised jointly by Rotary Mysore Midtown and Silicon Controls (India) Pvt. Ltd., at Rotary Centre on JLB Road in city yesterday. They are seen with*** *(standing from left)* ***Rotary Mysore Midtown Past President Dr. M.N. Bheemesh, President Rtn. M.S. Naveen Chandra, District Governor-Elect Rtn. H.R. Keshav, Silicon Controls (India) Pvt. Ltd. Director Rtn. S. Raghavendra, Rotary Mysore Midtown Hon. Secretary Rtn. Kumaraswamy and Vocational Service Director Rtn. Venkatesh.***

Wins silver in swimming

Mysuru, Apr. 20- **Ln. S. Achutha,** Chartered Accountant, Mysuru, has bagged a silver medal in the 50 mts Freestyle Swimming Competition organised by Sri Kanteerava Narasimharaja Sports Club, Lalitha Mahal Road, at Mysore Sports Club Swimming Pool recently.

Mysurean for International Throwball Meet in Italy

Mysuru, Apr. 20- N.S. Subramanya, retired Physical Education Director, Somani B.Ed College, Mysuru, will be part of the Indian team that will be taking part in the International Throwball Conference to be held at Geneva in Italy from Apr. 22 to 25, according to a press release from Mysuru District Amateur Throwball Association.

DG&IGP launches WhatsApp number to help trace lost mobile phones

Mysuru, Apr. 20 - Mysuru City Police have provided a new e-portal to trace lost mobile phones and to prevent misuse of lost cellphones, they have created a new WhatsApp number: **63632-55135.** This number was launched by DG&IGP Praveen Sood at City Police Commissioner's Office on Apr. 18.

Public, residing in Mysuru city limits, who have lost their mobile phones, can make use of this WhatsApp number to provide necessary information which will help Police trace the lost mobile phones.

Those who have lost their mobile phones should send text message 'Hi' to WhatsApp 63632-55135. Once the message is received, the e-portal link is sent to the mobile number from which the text message is sent. By clicking on the link, the e-portal webpage opens and the person who has lost the mobile phone should provide all necessary information and submit it. Later, the Police will take steps to trace the lost mobile phone.

Citizens, who have lost their mobile phones are requested to make use of the new facility.

City Police Commissioner B. Ramesh, IGP (Southern Range) Pravin Madhukar Pawar, DCP (Law and Order) M. Muthuraj, DCP (Crime and Traffic) S. Jahnavi and other Police officials were present during the launch of this facility.

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The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-02 of 31-03-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Ranibennur and Harihar under Amrit Bharat Station. (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T components).	Rs. 25,82,59,273.03

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-03 of 31-03-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Shivamoga,Sagara jambagaru and Talaguppa under Amrit Bharat Station (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T components)	Rs. 36,86,70,077.49

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-04 of 31-03-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Chamarajanagara and Tiptur and Construction of new station building at Arsikere station with other allied works under Amrit Bharat Station. (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T components)	Rs. 49,13,98,339.54

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-05 of 31-03-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Sakleshpur, Subrahmanya Road and Bantawala under Amrit Bharat Station. (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T components)	Rs. 40,54,74,013.74

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-06 of 31-03-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Davangere and Chitradurg under Amrit Bharat Station. (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T components)	Rs. 16,00,75,280.46

E-Tender Notice No. CPMGSU-2023-07 of 01-04-2023

Item of work	Approx. Value
Mysuru Division : Improvement to existing station buildings, platform, circulating area of Hassan and Chamarajanagar under Amrit Bharat Station. (Composite tender with Civil, Electrical and S&T)	Rs. 23,16,42,663.64

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 03-05-2023
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Project Manager/Engg/GSU Mysuru
PUB/03/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

NEWS BRIEFS

Power disruption

As Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has taken up 1st quarterly maintenance work at 66/11 KV Jayapura Power Distribution Centre, there will be no power supply from 10 am to 6 pm tomorrow (Apr. 21) in the following areas: Villages coming under Jayapura, Marballi, Gopalapura, Udbur, Dhanagalli and Harohalli Gram Panchayats (GPs), according to a press release from the Executive Engineer, CESC, V.V. Mohalla Division.

Inauguration of Nagarika Vedike

The newly formed Hiriya Nagarika Vedike, Niveditha Nagar, Mysuru, will be inaugurated at a programme organised at Anubhava Mantapa in Niveditha Nagar Park in Sharadadevinagar on Apr. 21 at 7 pm. Jnanabuthi Institute Convenor Jainahalli Satyanarayanagowda will be the chief guest. For details, contact Mob: 93425-98027.

Geography Alumni Association

University of Mysore Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath will inaugurate the Geography Alumni Association at the Department of Studies (DoS) in Geography, Manasagangothri, tomorrow (Apr. 21) at 11 am. University of Mysore Registrar V.R. Shylaja will deliver a special talk on the occasion. Association President Prof. C. Chowdaiah will preside. DoS in Geography Chairman and Association General Secretary Prof. P. Jayashree will be present, according to a press release.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80	feet
Today	:	92.20	feet
Tuesday	:	93.15	feet
Inflow	:	200	cusecs
Outflow	:	1,144	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00	feet
Today	:	2,255.03	feet
Inflow	:	55	cusecs
Outflow	:	500	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00	feet
Today	:	2,821.01	feet
Inflow	:	15	cusecs
Outflow	:	65	cusecs

2,404 persons above 80 opt for voting from home

- 80,994 Form 12-D distributed; 2,404 elders express wish to vote from home
- 403 out of 31,304 Persons with Disabilities (PwD) too avail similar facility

Mysuru, Apr. 20 (BCT)- This election in Karnataka, the Election Commission is all set to adopt a measure to enable people above 80 years and individuals with disabilities to Vote-from-Home. This initiative aims to empower around 12.15 lakh elderly voters and 5.55 lakh persons with disabilities who may face difficulties in reaching polling stations.

In the first-of-its-kind move, soon after the poll dates were announced, officials started visiting the homes of these voters who cannot come to the polling stations due to various reasons and assisting them in exercising their right to vote. Their age was identified in the data available with the District Administration.

Officers from the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), City Municipal Councils, Panchayats and other Government Departments have been visiting the homes of those having a voter ID card and are above 80 years of age or have any disabilities with a form called 12-D. Consent is being taken from them regarding whether they wish to vote from home or will go to the polling booth to cast their votes. Those who are unable to visit the polling booth can cast their votes using the postal ballot system brought to their homes by **Booth Level Officers (BLOs)** and a Returning Officer (RO) will deploy polling teams, who will deliver and collect the postal ballot on pre-informed dates and deposit it with the RO.

So far (till Apr. 19, 2023), 31,304 Form 12-D has been issued in Mysuru for persons with disability and 403 filled-in forms have been received. 80,994 persons above 80 years of age have been given Form 12-D by visiting individual houses in Mysuru and 2,404 forms have been collected.

Persons with Disabilities (PwD)

Constituency-wise, 3,240 form 12-D have been issued for persons with disabilities and 75 have been collected in Periyapatna, 3,106 form 12-D have been issued and 77 have been collected in K.R. Nagar, 3,491 forms distributed and 31 collected in Hunsur, 3,274 forms were distributed and 12 were collected in H.D. Kote, 3,094 forms were distributed and 62 were collected in Nanjangud, 2,567 forms were distributed and 40 were collected in Chamundeshwari.

In Krishnaraja Constituency, 1,428 forms were distributed and 6 were collected, 2,326 forms were distributed and 3 were collected in Chamaraja, 2,646 forms were distributed and 9 were collected in Narasimharaja, 3,073 forms were distributed and 43 were collected in Varuna, 3,059 forms were distributed and 45 were collected in T. Narasipur.

A BLO taking thumb impression of an elderly woman on Form 12-D to facilitate Vote-from-Home.

Above 80 years of age

Constituency-wise, 5,254 form 12-D have been issued for persons above 80 years of age and 286 have been collected in Periyapatna, 6,714 form 12-D have been issued and 499 have been collected in K.R. Nagar, 6,908 forms were distributed and 124 were collected in Hunsur, 4,650 forms were distributed and 22 were collected in H.D. Kote, 7,563 forms were distributed and 336 were collected in Nanjangud, 8,548 forms were distributed and 206 were collected in Chamundeshwari.

In Krishnaraja Constituency, 12,174 forms were distributed and 308 were collected, 9,718 forms were distributed and 133 were collected in Chamaraja, 6,966 forms were distributed and 124 were collected in Narasimharaja, 6,607 forms were distributed and 192 were collected in Varuna, 5,892 forms distributed and 174 collected in T. Narasipur.

A voter-friendly initiative

As part of the vote-from-home drive, officials visit door-to-door to enquire about the residents who can avail of this facility. Residents are first asked if they are able to come to the polling station to vote. If the residents express their inability to do so, then they are informed about the procedure to vote at home through a postal ballot. The measure comes as a huge relief to 80-plus-aged residents who have to head out to the polling stations in the hot summer. Till now, such senior citizens and people with disabilities would be escorted inside the polling booth by people stationed at the centres so they do not have to wait in line. By enabling vote-from-home, this process has been made voter-friendly.

Essential services and polling personnel

This apart, **Absentee Voters in Essential Services (AVES)** can also use postal ballots to cast their vote by submitting Form 12-D to the Returning Officer. This category of essential services officials includes doctors, para-medical staff, ambulance service of the Health Department, drivers and conductors of KSRTC, fire services, the staff of Milk Federation and Milk Co-op. Societies and accredited journalists. These AVES will receive certificates from Departmental Nodal Offices in accordance with Election Commission of India guidelines. In Mysuru, 694 12-D forms have been issued to AVES and all 694 forms have been received. Polling persons deputed at various booths too can avail of this facility and 989 form 12-D has been issued and 989 have been received.

47 candidates file nomination papers in district on Apr. 19

Mysuru, Apr. 20 (RK&DM)- As many as 47 candidates filed their nomination papers for 11 Assembly segments of the district yesterday (Apr. 19) for the May 10 polls.

While former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah filed his nomination in Nanjangud as Congress candidate from high stakes Varuna Assembly seat, sitting MLA Tanveer Sait filed his nomination as Congress candidate from NR Constituency of the city and Congress candidate K. Harish Gowda from Chamaraja Constituency. The other candidates who filed their nomination yesterday included Congress candidate D. Ravishankar, AAP candidate Murugesh and independent candidate Shivananjappa from K.R. Nagar Constituency; R. Mahadevaswamy of Uttama Prajaakeeya Party from Varuna; B.R. Puttaswamy as BSP candidate from T. Narasipur; A.N. Shivalingappa of Samajwadi Party from T. Narasipur; S. Prakash Priyadarshan and H.P. Udayshankar as independent candidates from KR Constituency; B. Shivanna of Karnataka Praja Party and S. Harish of Uttama Prajaakeeya Party from Chamundeshwari.

Meanwhile, KR Constituency Congress candidate M.K. Somashekar filed another set of his nomination papers yesterday. Somashekar had filed his nomination papers on Apr. 17.

As on Wednesday, as many as 146 candidates in the district have filed their nomination.

Today (Apr. 20) is the last day for filing of nomination papers and the scrutiny of nomination papers would be taken up tomorrow (Apr. 21). Last date for withdrawal of nomination is Apr. 24.

Fire mishap at cracker godown in Hebbal Industrial Area

Site resembles a war-torn city

Rs. 40 lakh worth crackers, new SUV gutted; cause of fire yet to be ascertained

Mysuru, Apr. 20 (RK&KS)- The major fire that broke out at the 'Jupiter Forum Cracker Stall' godown and shop on Rane Madras Factory Road in Hebbal Industrial Area yesterday has caused widespread damages.

The actual damage could not be witnessed and assessed due to thick smoke billowing from the building and searing heat when the incident occurred last afternoon and evening.

Today morning, however, the damage was visible as the fire had been contained and the location resembled a destroyed building in a war-torn nation.

The fire destroyed crackers worth Rs. 40 lakh and a new KIA SUV belonging to the owner, in addition to causing extensive damage to the building. Initially, it was estimated that crackers worth over Rs. 5 crore were burnt.

To combat the fire, a total of 14 fire extinguisher vehicles from the Fire and Emergency Services Department were deployed, including nine from Mysuru city and six from neighbouring taluks such as T. Narasipur, Hunsur, K.R. Nagar and Srirangapatna.

The serial explosions in quick succession that occurred at the godown caused panic and tension in the area for some time before it became clear that the loud noise was due to the crackers catching fire. People were able to move to safety and heaved a sigh of relief.

However, environmental activists have pointed out that the godown was located opposite Bommanahalli Lake and had caused damage to the local flora and aquatic species in the water body.

The owner of the godown, Anand Rajagopal Shetty, stated that he had been using the godown to stock crackers for the past 4 to 5 years, and had been running the cracker shop there for 8 to 9 years. He mentioned that he had recently stocked up crackers worth Rs. 40 lakh due to the upcoming village fairs and elections, and had stored them along with the old stock in the godown.

It is currently unclear how the crackers caught fire, but the resulting fire completely burnt the cracker stock to ashes and also destroyed Anand's new KIA car, which had been purchased just 15 days back. Anand's guest house, which was located on the first floor, sustained some damage, and a nearby timber shop was also slightly affected by the fire.

Wife, staff escape unhurt

Anand further explained that his wife had driven to the godown in the new car to check on the stocks. After inspecting the stock, she and the staff had exited the godown, locked it, and were standing at a distance with the new car still parked in the godown premises when the fire broke out.

"They quickly moved to a safe distance, and within five minutes, the entire godown was engulfed in flames. Fortunately, no one was inside the godown or shop when the incident occurred," Anand said.

He mentioned that he had a valid licence to run the business and had also insured the godown and shop. The licence is valid until 2027. He expressed his appreciation for the fire personnel who played a crucial role in controlling the fire and preventing it from spreading to nearby buildings. He also stated that he is cooperating with the Police investigation.

'Use open spaces to set up cracker godowns, shops'

MIA objects to cracker units in industrial areas

Suresh Kumar Jain, the General Secretary of the **Mysore Industries Association (MIA)**, has stated that cracker godowns and shops should be set up in open spaces, whether in residential or industrial areas. Additionally, there should be sufficient space between the two shops to prevent any accidents.

Jain pointed out that the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), which grants permission for cracker stalls in the city, must ensure that enough space is left between the two shops. However, in this case, there was not enough space left between the godown and other buildings, which was a clear violation.

He argued that permission should not be given for cracker godowns or shops in industrial areas, as it could endanger many industries. In this regard, MIA had submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP), City Police Commissioner, officials of the Fire and Emergency Services and Gram Panchayats.

Jain added that the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) had also objected to granting permission for cracker godowns in industrial areas, but it was still granted.

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BJP's big risks in Varuna, Kanakapura Constituencies

Did anyone guess Rahul Gandhi's rout in Amethi?

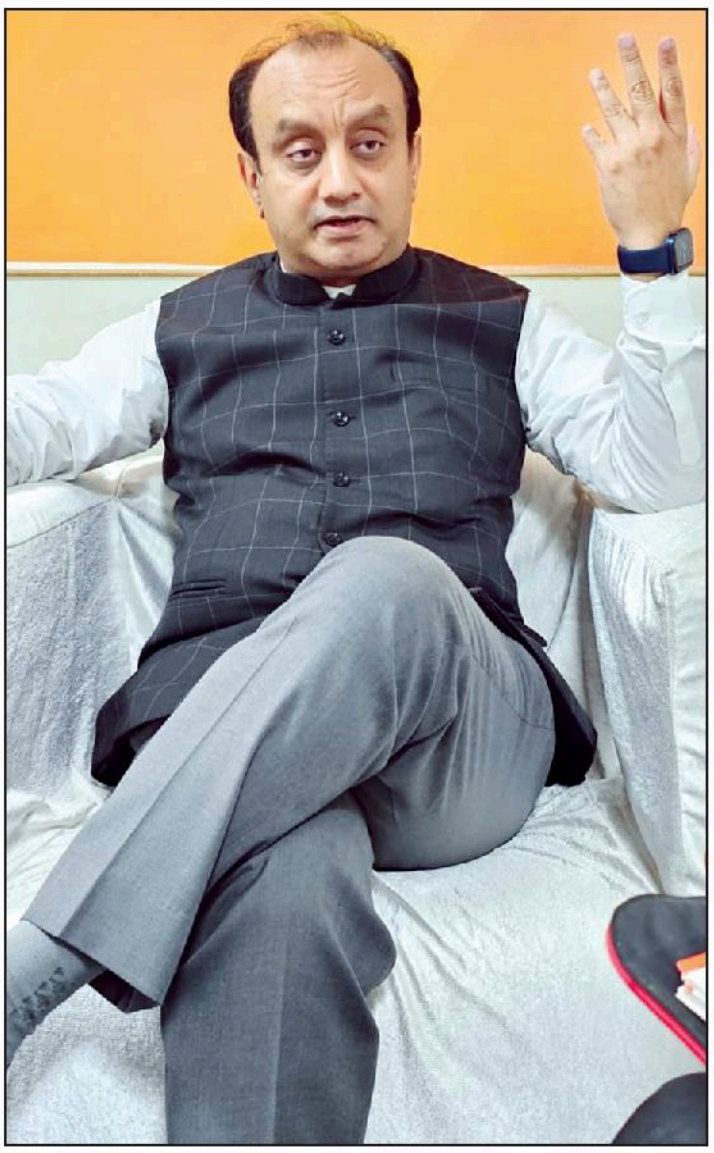
BJP National Spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi tells *Star of Mysore* that politics is unpredictable

By B. Sreekantswamy

The upcoming election has prompted the BJP to adopt a range of strategies in its bid to retain power. This election differs from previous ones that the BJP has nominated more than 50 new faces including individuals from a variety of professional backgrounds and political novices.

This move has generated significant public interest and has led some prominent leaders to resign from the party. The BJP's confidence level has been upped by the sensational defeat of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi by BJP's Smriti Irani in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in Amethi, which was considered a Gandhi bastion.

This has given the party hope that it can also win in key seats like Varuna and Kanakapura, despite the risks involved. The party is gearing up for a high-voltage electoral battle in these Constituencies. Broaching upon several topics, BJP National Spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi exclusively spoke to *Star of Mysore* during his visit to the city yesterday. Excerpts:



BJP National Spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi.

Star of Mysore (SOM): In 2008, when B.S. Yediyurappa formed the first-ever BJP Government down South, the party had failed to secure a full majority (winning 110 seats and forming the Government with the support of six independents). How confident is the party this time around?

Sudhanshu Trivedi: This time, we are confident that we will secure the required number of seats to form a majority Government.

SOM: There are always rumours of a tacit understanding between BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) during every election, with the possibility of both parties forming a Coalition Government. What is your take on this?

Trivedi: In the previous election, the Congress party called JD(S) the B-Team of BJP. However, soon after the election, Congress formed a Government in alliance with JD(S). Let me make it clear that there is no such understanding between BJP and JD(S) this time, nor is it necessary as we are confident of obtaining a clear majority.

SOM: Isn't it a risky move for the BJP to field candidates in Varuna and Kanakapura Constituencies, which if lost, could put the party in an embarrassing situation?

Trivedi: Politics is unpredictable, and anything can happen in elections. We have seen unexpected results in the past, such as Rahul Gandhi's defeat in his family bastion of Amethi during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Smriti Irani handed him out a defeat, belying expectations, that was never heard of after the 1977 elections (when Ravindra Pratap Singh of Janata Party had defeated Congress' Sanjay Gandhi).

The decision to field candidates in Varuna and Kanakapura has been taken after careful consideration and analysis. We are confident that our candidates will put up a strong fight and emerge victorious.

[Continued on page 7]

Fear of defeat haunting Siddharamaiah in Varuna

Rajya Sabha Member Sudhanshu Trivedi accuses former CM of practising divisive politics

BJP National Spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi** (third from right) **addressing the media at the BJP Media Centre in Chamarajapuram last evening. Others seen are** (from left) **District Media Coordinator Mahesh Raje Urs, Coordinator of Media Centre Nagesh, BJP State Spokesman Girish Upadhyaya, City Spokesman M. Mohan and District Spokesman Dr. K. Vasanth Kumar.

Mysuru, Apr. 20 (BS)- Rajya Sabha Member and National Spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Sudhanshu Trivedi has dismissed the allegations against BJP made by former CM and Varuna Congress candidate Siddharamaiah and said that fear of defeat is haunting Siddharamaiah and he is making such statements out of insecurity at his home turf.

Addressing reporters at the BJP Media Centre near RTO Office in Chamarajapuram last evening, Trivedi was responding to a question that according to Siddharamaiah, the BJP was spending a significant amount of money just to ensure his defeat.

"Siddharamaiah is playing the caste card despite his claims of being an 'Ahinda' leader. He has a strong desire to appease Muslims while having the least regard for Dalits and other backward classes," Trivedi said.

He cited the example of Dalit leader Dr. G. Parameshwara being sidelined in the Congress party and the recent developments involving Pulakeshinagar Congress MLA Akhanda Srinivas Murthy, who was denied a Congress ticket and is now in the fray as an Independent candidate.

Free run for banned PFI

Trivedi also criticised Siddharamaiah's tenure as CM, stating that he withdrew cases booked against now-banned Popular Front of India (PFI) activists, and celebrated Tipu Jayanti but cancelled Hampi Utsav.

"Siddharamaiah has been promoting a divisive atmosphere despite Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's efforts to provide social justice and increase the reservation quota for Lingayats, Vokkaligas, SCs, STs, and Muslims under the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category," he added.

According to Trivedi, Siddharamaiah's promise to roll back SC/ST quota and increase the reservation for Muslims from 4 percent to 13 percent if Congress returns to power is nothing but an attempt to appease the Muslim community.

BJP heralded development

Trivedi went on to list the contributions of BJP-led Central Government to the State, such as the development of railway yards and facilities with a significant amount of funds allocated, the electrification of 90 percent of railway lines, and the launch of the Vande Bharat Express Train. Additionally, proposals for a microchip manufacturing industry in Mysuru were made and the number of airports in Karnataka has increased from two to seven, he added.

In response to a question about Congress' election promises in Karnataka, which include providing free power and rice to families as well as financial assistance for homemakers, Trivedi expressed scepticism about the feasibility of these promises given the significant budgetary allocation required.

Impractical promises

He cited the failures of Congress-led Governments in Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh to implement similar promises made in their election manifestos.

Trivedi also dismissed concerns about the impact of former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar's recent defection to Congress, noting that leaders have switched parties in the past, including from Congress to BJP.

Regarding the allegations of a 40 percent commission Government against BJP, Trivedi challenged the Congress party to provide evidence and file a case if they have proof to support their claims.

Today last day to file nomination

(Continued from page 1)

Maintaining that there is no disgruntlement in the party, Srivatsa said he would launch his campaign under the able leadership of Ramdas and Rajeev. Expressing confidence about victory, he said that he will take all party leaders of the Constituency into confidence and engage them in campaigning.

Chamaraja JD(S) candidate

Chamaraja JD(S) candidate H.K. Ramesh also filed his nomination papers at the Old Council Hall of the MCC Main Office today. He presented his papers to RO G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, MCC Commissioner. Earlier, Ramesh came in a procession from Raghavendrasawmy Mutt near Shantala Talkies on N.S. Road to the MCC Office, along with hundreds of party workers.

Meanwhile, disgruntled BJP leader S. Jayaprakash (JP), who is upset over being denied the party ticket from Chamaraja Constituency, held a meeting with his supporters at Alamma Choultry in Shivarampet to discuss his future course of action.

Based on the resolution adopted at the meeting, JP, who is a former Senate Member of University of Mysore, filed his nomination as an Independent candidate from Chamaraja Constituency, according to sources.

No relief for Rahul Gandhi

(Continued from page 1)

The former Congress President was convicted by a Magistrate Court in Surat on Mar. 23 for his remark, "All thieves have Modi surname" which he had made at an election rally in Kolar in 2019.

Rahul Gandhi had requested that his conviction be paused pending his appeal against a Court order sentencing him to two years in jail in the case. Rahul Gandhi had said that the Trial Court treated him harshly after being overwhelmingly influenced by his status as an MP.

The Congress leader was disqualified as an MP a day after Magistrate Hadirash Varma sentenced him to two years in jail in the case filed by BJP MLA Purnesh Modi. Gandhi had said in his speech, "Nirav Modi, Lalit Modi, Narendra Modi. How come all the thieves have 'Modi' as a common surname?" Purnesh Modi filed a defamation suit against Gandhi claiming that by this statement, Gandhi defamed all the persons with the 'Modi' surname.

The Judge said that Rahul Gandhi, through his statement, had insulted all persons with the Modi surname for his political interest.

In his petition filed through his advocate at the Sessions Court, Rahul Gandhi told the Court, "My speech isn't defamatory unless drawn out of context, looked under a magnifying glass to create or to make it defamatory. Basically, litigation was inflicted upon me for daring to be vociferously critical of our PM. The trial was harsh and unfair to me."

However, Purnesh Modi argued, "Rahul Gandhi's conduct deserves no sympathy and his sentence shouldn't be suspended. He isn't saying sorry. This is his arrogance he can't say sorry. He is such a tall leader. Such a big personality, he can't say sorry but only shows arrogance. He isn't entitled to any relief at this stage."

Did anyone guess Rahul Gandhi's rout?

(Continued from page 6)

SOM: A few days into the election and BJP is facing an embarrassing situation, especially with a senior leader like former CM Jagadish Shettar quitting the party. Also, Shettar has alleged that the party is controlled by a few leaders.

Trivedi: These are baseless and Shettar's exit will not have any negative implications on the party's prospects. When it comes to ticket allocation, the decision has been taken only after a thorough study and survey, which I am not privy to. The election has just begun and will pick up pace in the coming days. By Apr. 30, we will have clarity on which way the wind is blowing.

SOM: For BJP in Karnataka, former Chief Ministers B.S. Yediyurappa and Jagadish Shettar and former Deputy CM K.S. Eshwarappa were the prominent faces. But this time both Yediyurappa and Eshwarappa are not in the fray.

Trivedi: Yediyurappa has set a strong base for the party while Eshwarappa has also contributed equally. However, their absence in this election won't have any significant impact on the party's prospects. As I mentioned earlier, the tour schedules of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and several other top leaders are still being worked out.

SOM: From Local Body elections to Assembly and other elections, Narendra Modi is the only face for BJP to seek votes. That's what Opposition parties rake up during every election.

Trivedi: The Opposition parties often resort to such propaganda because they lack credible leadership and a strong organisation like BJP. We believe in the collective leadership of the party and every candidate has his/her own strength and contribution to the party's success. However, it is true that PM Narendra Modi's leadership and his vision for development have brought about a sea change in the country and he remains a popular face not just for the BJP but for the people of the country as well. While in Congress they will be worrying what new issues will crop up with Rahul Gandhi's arrival for campaigning.

SOM: By fielding more than 50 new faces, the party has taken a big risk this time.

Trivedi: We believe that these candidates have the potential to emerge as strong leaders for the party in the future. We have full faith in their abilities and we are confident that they will perform well in the elections. So, it's not a risk, but a well-thought-out strategy for the party's growth and future success.

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ಪ್ರ. ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **SMT. M.L. ANNAPURNA**, wife of Sri. Ramakrishnaiah, is desirous to sell the under mentioned property to my client and any person or persons claiming any interest on the under mentioned property or any part thereof, is hereby required to communicate the same to me with documentary evidence at my office, situated at **DOOR No.2765/1A D13/A1, "KEYANS", 5TH MAIN ROAD, V.V. PURAM (V.V. MOHALLA), MYSORE – 570 002,** within 10 (Ten) days from the date of this publication, as otherwise the said sale will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived for all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Converted Land for Residential Purpose bearing following Survey Numbers, Extents and Boundaries, situated at Yelawala Village, Yelawala Hobli, Mysore Taluk.

Survey No.	Extent		Boundaries			
	A	G	East	West	North	South
241/1A	2	02	Sy. No.241/2	Sy. No.244 & 241/1B	Road	Huyilalu Village Boundary & Sy. No.241/1B
241/1B	0	20	Sy. No.241/1A	Sy. No.244	Sy. No.241/1A	Sy. No. 241/1C
241/1C	0	12	Road	Sy. No.244	Sy. No.241/1B	Road
Total	**2**	**34**				

Place: Mysore
Date: 20.04.2023

Sd/- Dhirendra Kumar R. Mehta, Advocate
KEY-ANS LAW SOLUTIONS

MYSORE TRAIN TIMINGS

FROM MYSURU RAILWAY STATION TOWARDS KSR BENGALURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Mysuru Departure	Bengaluru Arrival	Days of Service
16586	Mangaluru	KSR Bengaluru	3.45 am	6.15 am	Mon, Wed & Fri
12610	Mysuru	Chennai	5 am	7.45 am	Daily
16217	Mysuru	Shirdi	5.30 am	7.55 am	Monday
17326	Mysuru	Belagavi	5.50 am	8.40 am	Daily
06256	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	6.10 am	9.05 am	Daily Passenger
16215	Mysuru	Bengaluru	6.45 am	9.35 am	Daily
16229	Mysuru	Varanasi	7.30 am	9.55 am	Tue & Thu
16023	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	8.20 am	10.50 am	Daily
07345	Chamarajanagar	KSR Bengaluru	9.05 am	12.50 pm	Daily Passenger
19668	Mysuru	Udaipur	10 am	12.10 pm	Thu [Humsafar Exp]
12975	Mysuru	Jaipur	10.30 am	12.55 pm	Thu & Sat
12578	Mysuru	Darbhanga	10.30 am	1.35 pm	Friday
12613	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	11.30 am	2 pm	Daily
16315	Mysuru	Kochuveli	12.50 pm	4.35 pm	Daily
20608	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	1.05 pm	2.50 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
17307	Mysuru	Bagalkot	1.25 pm	4.30 pm	Daily
06258	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	1.45 pm	4.55 pm	Daily Passenger
12008	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	2.15 pm	4.10 pm	Daily Except Wed
16557	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	2.50 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
12786	Mysuru	Kacheguda	3.15 pm	5.40 pm	Daily
16535	Mysuru	Solapur	3.45 pm	6.35 pm	Daily
16232	Mysuru	Mayiladuturai	4.30 pm	6.50 pm	Daily
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	4.55 pm	8.20 pm	Daily
16236	Mysuru	Tuticorin	6.20 pm	8.55 pm	Daily
16592	Mysuru	Hubballi	6.50 pm	9.40 pm	Daily
16210	Mysuru	Ajmer	7.10 pm	10.30 pm	Tue & Thu
16227	Mysuru	Talguppa	7.30 pm	10.55 pm	Daily
06526	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	7.50 pm	11.05 pm	Daily
22681	Mysuru	Chennai	8.15 pm	10.50 pm	Wednesday
16022	Mysuru	Chennai	9 pm	11.45 pm	Daily
06269	Mysuru	SMVT Baiyyappanahalli	10.20 pm	12.45 am	Daily
06560	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	10.25 pm	1.15 am	Daily
11065	Mysuru	Renigunta	11 pm	1.30 am	Friday
22818	Mysuru	Howrah	11.45 pm	2 am	Sunday

DEPARTING FROM KSR BENGALURU AND ARRIVING MYSURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Bengaluru Departure	Mysuru Arrival	Days of Service from Bengaluru
06270	SMVT Baiyyappanahalli	Mysuru	12.15 am	4.30 am	Daily
22817	Howrah	Mysuru	1.10 am	3.20 am	Sunday
16218	Shirdi	Mysuru	1.10 am	3.20 am	Thursday
06559	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	2.05 am	5.15 am	Daily Passenger
16021	Chennai	Mysuru	4 am	6.40 am	Daily
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	4.30 am	7 am	Daily
16228	Talguppa	Mysuru	5.05 am	8.20 am	Daily
22682	Chennai	Mysuru	5.25 am	8 am	Friday
16231	Mayiladuturai	Mysuru	5.45 am	8 am	Daily
16591	Hubballi	Mysuru	6 am	8.40 am	Daily
12785	Kacheguda	Mysuru	6.45 am	9.35 am	Daily
16235	Tuticorin	Mysuru	7.15 am	10.20 am	Daily
16536	Solapur	Mysuru	8 am	10.45 am	Daily
17308	Bagalkot	Mysuru	8.20 am	11.45 am	Daily
16316	Kochuveli	Mysuru	8.50 am	11.15 am	Daily
06257	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	9.40 am	1.30 pm	Daily Passenger
20607	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.20 am	12.20 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
12007	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.50 am	1 pm	Daily Except Wed
16558	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	11.30 am	2 pm	Daily
12976	Jaipur	Mysuru	1.15 pm	4 pm	Wed & Fri
19667	Udaipur	Mysuru	1.35 pm	4.30 pm	Wed [Humsafar Exp]
16024	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	1.50 pm	4.20 pm	Daily
12614	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	3.15 pm	5.45 pm	Daily
07346	KSR Bengaluru	Chamarajanagar	3.35 pm	6.35 pm	Daily Passenger
06525	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	4.50 pm	7.40 pm	Daily Passenger
12577	Darbhanga	Mysuru	5.15 pm	8 pm	Thursday
17325	Belagavi	Mysuru	5.45 pm	8.40 pm	Daily
16216	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	6.15 pm	9.05 pm	Daily
16230	Varanasi	Mysuru	6.35 pm	10 pm	Mon & Sat
06255	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	7 pm	10.15 pm	Daily
12609	Chennai	Mysuru	7.50 pm	10.50 pm	Daily
16585	KSR Bengaluru	Mangaluru	9 pm	11.20 pm	Daily Except Friday
11066	Renigunta	Mysuru	11.20 pm	1.35 am	Saturday
16209	Ajmer	Mysuru	11.35 pm	1.55 am	Tue & Sun

TOWARDS HASSAN, ARSIKERE, SHIVAMOGGA, DAVANGERE, HAVERI, HUBBALLI, DADAR, NEW DELHI & BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
16206	Mysuru	Talguppa	6 am	1.15 pm	Daily
11036	Mysuru	Dadar	6.15 am	5.30 am (next day)	Sunday (Mysuru)
06268 (Exp)	Mysuru	Arsikere	6.30 am	10.25 am	Daily
16208	Mysuru	Yesvantpur	7.15 am	10.10 am (Hassan)	Daily
16225	Mysuru	Shivamogga	10.15 am	4.25 pm	Daily
16222	Mysuru	Talguppa	2 pm	11.30 pm	Daily
06214	Mysuru	Arsikere	5.45 pm	9.50 pm	Daily
12781	Mysuru	Hazrat Nizamuddin	8.10 pm (Fri)	5.50 pm (Sun)	Friday
17301	Mysuru	Dharwad	10.30 pm	8.05 am	Daily
16585	Mysuru	Mangaluru Central	11.15 pm	9.05 am	Mon, Wed, Sat
06547	Mysuru	Mangaluru Central	11.15 pm	9.05 am	Tue, Thu, Sun
17302	Dharwad	Mysuru	9.05 pm	7 am	Daily
06213	Arsikere	Mysuru	5 pm	9.25 am	Daily
16226	Shivamogga	Mysuru	11.15 am	4.50 pm	Daily
16207 (Exp)	Yesvantpur	Mysuru	4.45 pm (Hassan)	7.55 pm	Daily
06267	Arsikere	Mysuru	5.30 pm	9.15 pm	Daily
11035	Dadar	Mysuru	9.30 pm	9.40 pm (next day)	Thursday (Dadar)
16221	Talguppa	Mysuru	6.10 am	3.35 pm	Daily
16205	Talguppa	Mysuru	3 pm	10.15 pm	Daily
12782	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Mysuru	5.10 am (Mon)	3.30 am (Wed)	Monday
16586	Mangaluru Central	Mysuru	6.35 pm	3 am	Tue, Thu, Sun
06548	Mangaluru Central	Mysuru	6.35 pm	3 am	Wed, Fri, Mon

TOWARDS MYSURU TO CHAMARAJANAGAR AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
07327	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	5 am	6.35 am	Daily Passenger
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	7.20 am (Mys)	9.10 am	Daily
06233	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	9.15 am	10.55 am	Daily Passenger
06276	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	12.15 pm	2 pm	Daily
06543	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	3.45 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
07346	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	6.40 pm	8.40 pm	Daily
07345	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	7.15 am	9 am	Daily
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	3.30 pm	4.45 pm	Daily
06234	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	5.25 pm	7.15 pm	Daily Passenger
06275	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	6.35 pm	8.25 pm	Daily
06544	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	8.45 pm	10.30 pm	Daily
07328	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	9.30 pm	11.10 pm	Daily Passenger

DECODING MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

The grandchild of vedic waters

Of the thousand songs in the Rigveda, we find 200 songs praising Agni. In fact, the first song of the Rigveda is a praise to Agni, who is called the priest and messenger of the gods. Agni must be placed in the eastern direction and it is through him that offerings reach the gods. Fire is clearly the most important element in a vedic ritual.

Fire was so essential in vedic times, that there were three special fires. There was the main fire which was placed in a circular altar linked to the household fire. Then there was a square-shaped altar placed in the east for the gods. Lastly, a hemispherical altar placed in the south for the ancestors.

The process of kindling fire was elaborate. It inspired poets to create many poetic metaphors. For example, there was a metaphor about the two sticks which were rubbed against each other to make fire. The Shami stick was drilled on the Ashwatha branch. This was compared with the male making love to the female to create fire. Another metaphor was calling the two palms rubbed together to drill fire as two mothers (dvi-mata).

Fire was also considered Apam Napat or the grandchild of water. This was because water produces wood and the sticks of wood would produce fire. When the spark was seen after the drilling ritual, the embers it produced were gently waved and transformed into flames. Blowing fire is clearly the most important element in a vedic ritual. Blowing on the fire was avoided since it would contaminate fire with spit. Thus, the gentle cradling of fire was encouraged. This reminded people of grandparents taking care of their grandchildren. Hence, the name Apam Napat or the grandchild of water was given to Agni.

In Vedic times, fire was classified into two groups: the pure fire and the impure fire. The pure fire or Jatavedas was used to cook food and to take food to the gods. While the Kravyada or the impure fire was used to burn dead bodies. The dead body was seen as the final offering from a human being to the gods. It was also used to burn garbage.

In later Vedic literature, we hear the story of how fire reveals the identity of Bhrigu's wife Paloma to a demon. This enables him to find and kidnap her. She is pregnant at this time and the child in her womb slips out. The child who slips out, curses fire for revealing his mother's whereabouts. It is this curse that makes fire consume all impure substances. Agni is later forgiven. He is told that whatever he consumes will be purified. In the Mahabharata, fire is said to have lost his lustre because of all the impurities he has consumed. To regain his lustre, he is encouraged to burn a forest and create new Aryan settlements for the Pandavas.

As temple culture evolved, fire became more an offering and a decorative item, than a deity. Lamps are lit at dawn and dusk and integral to the aarti ritual to see the gods in the presence of light. The deity is placed in dark, womb-like, cave-like temple annexes. And fire and its light were used to make the deity come alive. Thus, we see the transformation of fire from Vedic fire altars to temple lamps.

devdutt@devdutt.com

Indian Medical Association State President visits Mysuru Branch

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) Karnataka State Branch (KSB) President Dr. Shivakumar B. Lakkol, who visited IMA Mysuru Branch on New Sayyaji Rao Road in city recently, chaired a meeting with Association members. IMA KSB Assistant Secretary Dr. Laxman D. Bakale, State Vice-President Dr. S. Prasanna Shankar, Divisional Co-ordinator Dr. A.S. Sarvesha Raje Urs, District Co-ordinator Dr. B.N. Anandaravi, IMA KSB Building Committee Chairman Dr. H.L. Krishnegowda, IMA Mysuru Branch Past President Dr. Sujatha S. Rao, Central Council Member Dr. Suresh Rudrappa, President-Elect Dr. M.S. Jayanth, Vice-President Dr. N. Chandrabhan Singh, Joint Secretary Dr. K. Somasundar, Treasurer Dr. B.N. Shivashankar and others were present on the occasion.

Campaign vehicles get a designer makeover

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, Apr. 20 - Modified vehicles decked with party symbols and campaign livery slowly cruising through roads and remote by-lanes of a Constituency blaring out political messages for long has been an inevitable tool for any candidate to reach out to voters.

Though the style of campaigning has not changed much over the years, the vehicles have become more professionally designed, hi-tech and comfortable. Designers of display materials are now offering re-branding as a package and are striking a handsome deal from political parties for campaigning in style, in a plug-and-play mode.

As the political campaign scene picks up the pace and politicians prepare to hit the roads, sturdy custom-built vehicles and political branding have seen an exponential demand. Professionals specialising in re-branding passenger vehicles, open jeeps and goods trucks have been receiving orders for modifying vehicles into attractive campaign vehicles, complete with party symbols, flag colours and photos of leaders painted on them.

This political branding is one of the most visible and creative ways to showcase the party or a candidate in front of the voter. Visible, because the re-branded vehicles move all over the targeted Assembly Constituency and instantly garner attention wherever they go. Creative and artistic or a smartly designed and properly installed vehicle vinyl wrap can significantly enhance the appeal of the vehicle and make it stand out from the crowd during road shows. Apart from attracting viewer attention, such vehicles display party symbols and faces of candidates and the leadership, creating a brand identity.

When it comes to re-branding any vehicle to suit political or medical purposes, **N. Ram Prasad** is a known name in Mysuru city. He earned name and fame by doing similar tasks during the 2018 Assembly elections and when the killer COVID pandemic hit Mysuru and there was a need to modify tourist vehicles into ambulances.

During the peak of the pandemic, there was a dearth of ambulances to ferry patients to hospitals and take the dead to crematoriums and burial grounds. Ram Prasad owns Ultra Radiums at Vidyaranyapuram which is a full-fledged fabrication workshop. "I have converted more than 30 tourist vehicles into ambulances during the pandemic and supplied it to other districts as well," he told *Star of Mysore*.

Branding and fabrication work

Now Ram Prasad is busy re-branding political campaign vehicles. "I have already converted eight to nine vehicles so far for the BJP and Congress. Those were their own vehicles and I did the branding and fabrication work including top lighting, inside and outside frames giving it a new appearance, and design, with party symbols and photos. We ensure that the party flag colour merges or gels with the vehicle for that distinct appearance," he said.

N. Ram Prasad

Stickering, facilities to stand inside the vehicle, sound system and stand for the generator are provided. "It will take six days to refurbish a vehicle fully. If it is a minor branding work, it will take three days," he said. Ram Prasad has designed the vehicles for campaigns at Chamaraja, Holenarasipura, Nanjangud and Chamundeshwari Constituencies so far.

"The desired sound system for the vehicles must be purchased by the people who issue orders for re-branding the vehicles and we will install the same. Also, before we take any orders, we ensure that explicit permission has been sought from the Election Commission (District Administration) to design vehicles and how many campaign vehicles are allowed for each candidate. We do not take up unauthorised branding. Production of permission letter is mandatory," Ram Prasad added.

Demand high in 2023

During the 2018 elections, Ram Prasad fabricated just two to three vehicles. "This time, there is a good demand and more orders are expected after the last day of filing nominations and as the campaign picks up momentum. I have six to seven workers in my team who do the fabrication and stickering work. I have asked six or seven more to join the team," he added.

Ram Prasad is getting many repeat orders and most of them come through known references. "Conversion usually is an expensive affair considering the raw material prices and the cost of labour. But we ensure that the quality is maintained and clients are happy," he said.

The workers at his outlet save time taken for painting by pasting radium stickers on the vehicles. "These stickers and vinyl sheets can easily be removed after the elections and even the fabrication works are not permanent. Every fitting is with nuts and bolts and can be easily detached. The modified vehicles can be brought back to their original shape and colour in no time and there will not be any dent or damage," Ram Prasad claimed ■

WORD OF THE DAY

Vicinity

Pronunciation: vuh-SIN-uh-tee.
Meaning: Vicinity is often used as a synonym of neighbourhood meaning "the area around or near a particular place." It can also mean "the quality or state of being near" or "an approximate amount, extent, or degree."
Origin: Vicinity, a word with neighborly origins, was welcomed into English as a French import in the 16th century from Middle French vicinité. It comes ultimately from Latin vicus, meaning "row of houses" or "village," by way of Latin vicinus, meaning "neighboring." Other descendants of vicinus in English include vicinal (a synonym of local) and vicinage, a synonym of vicinity in the sense of "a neighboring or surrounding district." Both of these are formal and rare, but vicinage is notable for giving title to the Vicinage Clause, a segment of the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution that entitles an accused person to "an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law."
Example: "The base is off limits to civilians, but soldiers in various uniforms were the main customers at several cafes, fast food joints and a convenience store in the vicinity." — Valerie Hopkins Nanna Heitmann

THE ODD WORD

Vallecula

Groove or furrow.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Over the top

Meaning: The phrase 'Over the top' is used when a goal or quota has been surpassed, or when something is outrageously overdone or too extreme.
Origin: During the First World War, the phrase 'Over the top' was used to describe infantrymen emerging from the relative safety of their trenches to attack their enemies across open ground. An early example of the term in print comes from a 1916 edition of War Illustrated: "Some fellows asked our captain when we were going over the top."
Example: "Her fundraising campaign went over the top by $5,000."

QUOTE BOX

I never dreamed about success. I worked for it.—**Estee Lauder**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

CO FF EE

Answer: Coffee break.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

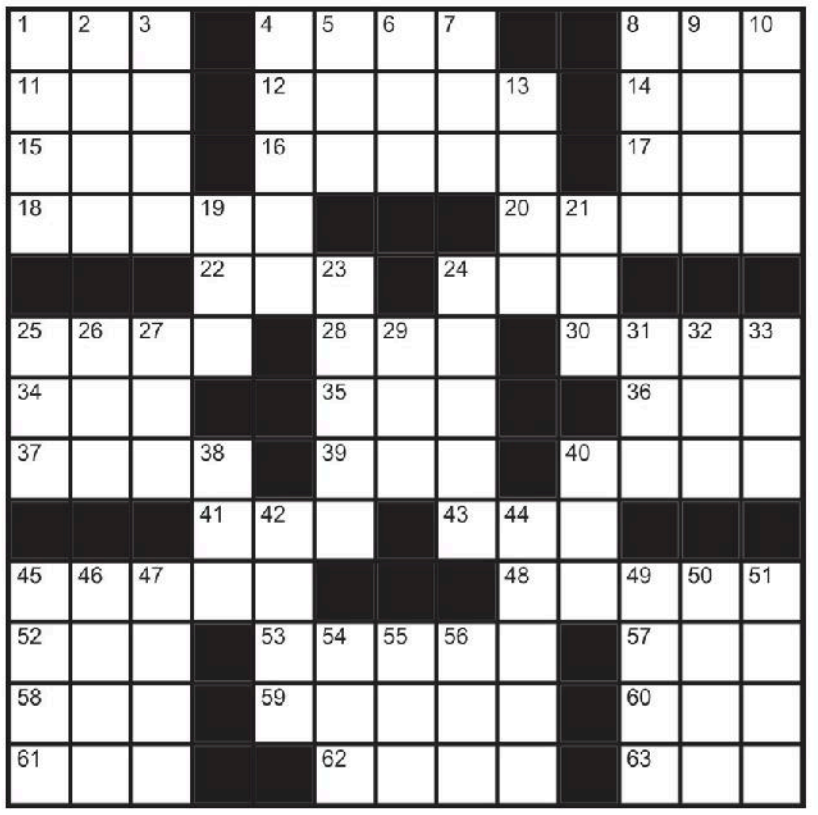
1 Not on?
4 Deadly sin
8 And not?
11 Small and petite, poetically speaking
12 Negatively charged ion
14 Tokyo's former name
15 A head of corn
16 A venomous snake
17 Telegu Desam Party, acronym
18 A rough copy
20 Impudent, audacious or brash
22 Lettuce variety
24 Old saying or maxim
25 Grows older
28 ____ - faced : insincere?
30 Pulls laboriously
34 Bond creator Fleming
35 An East Indian shrub
36 French king
37 Make a sketch
39 Railway Transport Officer
40 Small, busy workers
41 Decide
43 VI for Virgil
45 Revolving aerofoil
48 Yielded or resigned
52 Video file extension
53 Metrical feet
57 Girl's name
58 Interjection denoting disgust ?
59 Chalice
60 Nationwide multiplex chain
61 Some promos
62 Urban area
63 Circle found on a peacock tail

DOWN

1 Was indebted to
2 Apprehension
3 For Exchg Reg Act
4 "Milk" as a prefix?
5 Popular card game
6 One's kin or kindred
7 Rocky hill
8 Cricket practice?
9 Betting price
10 Poor in quality?
13 US space agency
19 Flight Control Sys.
21 Cobbler's tool
23 Begin
24 Jam-session features
25 Assistance
26 Needlefish
27 Spanish queen
29 Buddhist temple
31 Ash-container
32 Acquired or procured
33 Little sister
38 Court
40 Chopping tool
42 Fussy one
44 In a frigid manner
45 Nadal's nickname
46 Metamorphoses author
47 Fastens
49 Person easily deceived
50 The green-eyed monster
51 Challenge
54 Part of a circle
55 French month
56 Small piece

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

C	S	K	■	A	L	U	M	■	K	I	C	K
O	P	E	■	P	I	S	A	■	E	R	I	E
M	A	T	■	P	E	E	R	■	R	A	C	Y
B	R	U	C	E	■	■	C	I	A	■	■	■
■	■	■	C	A	T	S	■	A	L	K	A	■
O	U	T	C	R	O	P	■	F	A	I	T	H
A	P	E	■	■	W	E	B	■	■	W	O	O
F	A	S	T	S	■	C	H	E	W	I	N	G
■	S	T	E	P	■	S	I	N	H	■	■	■
■	■	■	L	Y	E	■	■	M	O	N	T	Y
T	O	F	U	■	A	P	S	E	■	A	S	A
S	N	A	G	■	R	O	E	S	■	P	A	W
F	T	T	U	■	P	I	T	H	■	E	R	N



SUDOKU

	2							9
	5		2	8			3	
4								7
				2	7		8	
	3		6	9	1		2	
	7		3	5				
6								5
	9			1	4		7	
1							9	

Answer to previous puzzle

9	3	5	6	4	7	8	1	2
6	7	2	3	8	1	9	4	5
1	8	4	5	2	9	3	6	7
2	6	9	7	1	3	5	8	4
7	5	8	9	6	4	1	2	3
3	4	1	2	5	8	6	7	9
4	2	3	1	9	6	7	5	8
5	9	6	8	7	2	4	3	1
8	1	7	4	3	5	2	9	6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

MO MT RCL WILX MWZLXTTMHX DKXE IOKXLT QMTGIHXL

NISL UIIQ YSCBMOMXT DMOKISO NISL KXBZ.

TODAY'S CLUE: S EQUALS U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: If you do not change direction, you may end up where you are heading.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Undenaama (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Undenaama (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Veeram (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Mariguddada Gaddadharigalu (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Shaakuntalam (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Gurudev Hoysala (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Viduthalai Part - 1 (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Rudhran (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — Ph: 2497199
  (No Shows)
- **Uma Theatre** — Ph: 2520009
  Day and Someone (Te) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	(S-1)	11.10 am, 1.55 pm, 4.30 pm 7.05 pm, 9.45 pm
Mariguddada Gaddadharigalu (K)	(S-2)	10.50 am
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	(S-2)	1.45 pm, 7.10 pm
	(S-3)	10.45 am
Undenaama (K)	(S-2)	4.25 pm, 10.00 pm
Viduthalai Part - 1 (Ta)	(S-3)	1.25 pm
Rudhran (Ta)	(S-3)	4.15 pm, 7.05 pm
Madanolsavam (Ma)	(S-3)	9.55 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te-3D)	(S-4)	10.30 am, 1.20 pm, 4.15 pm 7.00 pm, 9.50 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	:	10.30 am, 1.15 pm, 4.00 pm 6.30 pm, 9.00 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te)	:	10.45 am, 1.40 pm 4.35 pm, 7.15 pm
Undenaama (K)	:	10.45 am, 4.30 pm, 7.30 pm
Suraari (K)	:	1.30 pm
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	:	1.35 pm, 4.30 pm

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The Pope's Exorcist (E)	:	9.50 am, 7.55 pm
Rudhran (Ta)	:	10.30 am, 4.45 pm, 10.05 pm
Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	:	10.35 am, 2.05 pm 7.50 pm, 9.45 pm
Super Mario Bros. movie (E-3D)	:	10.50 am, 4.10 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te)	:	11.00 am, 1.05 pm, 4.45 pm 6.25 pm, 10.30 pm
Renfield (E)	:	11.15 am, 2.20 pm, 7.45 pm
Suraari (K)	:	12.15 pm
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	:	1.15 pm, 4.05 pm, 6.55 pm
Viduthalai Part - 1 (Ta)	:	1.40 pm
John Wick: Chapter 4	:	3.10 pm, 10.20 pm
Mariguddada Gaddadharigalu (K)	:	4.40 pm
Madanolsavam (Ma)	:	6.40 pm
Dasara (Te)	:	9.30 pm
Pookkaalam (Ma)	:	9.50 pm

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Rudhran (Ta)	:	12.20 pm, 6.20 pm
Suraari (K)	:	12.30 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te-3D)	:	12.45 pm, 3.50 pm, 6.55 pm, 10 pm
Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	:	1.45 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.05 pm, 9.45 pm
Undenaama (K)	:	3.25 pm
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	:	3.30 pm, 9.30 pm
The Pope's Exorcist (E)	:	6.35 pm
Corona Papers (Ma)	:	9.00 pm

General Thimayya Award

for Wing Commander Mandappanda Thimmaiah

Thimmaiah

Madikeri, Apr. 20- Indian Air Force (IAF) Wing Commander Mandappanda Thimmaiah has been awarded General Thimayya Award, recognising his distinguished service and performance at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.

Candidates who pass out from the College are conferred with awards for their overall achievements like the Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw Medal for the Best Student Officer and General Thimayya Award for overall achievement.

This year, Wing Commander Mandappanda Thimmaiah won the General Thimayya Award for Best All-rounder Achievement. Wing Commander Thimmaiah, who was serving the IAF as Squadron Leader, has recently been promoted as Wing Commander. He is the son of Mandappanda Chengappa (Sada) and Gowramma (Rajani, Ittira) of Bengoor village in Kodagu.

EVENTS TODAY (APRIL 20)

- **WISE (Women In Small Enterprises), the women's wing of MCCI (Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industry):** Exhibition of products and articles made by women, Jayamma Govindegowda Choultry, Udayaravi Road, Kuvempunagar, **up to 8.30 pm.** [Ph: 0821-4250246 or Mob: 98804-98129]
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram:** Swami Jnanayoganandaji speaks on 'Adhyatma Ramayana,' Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Chinmaya Mission:** Krishna Rao Prakash delivers discourse on 'Patanjali Yoga Sootragalu - Samadhi Paada,' Yajnashale, Datta Sannidhi, Chinmaya Mission, Gokulam, **6 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (APRIL 21)

- **Sri Nataraja Pratishtana, Sri Nataraja Educational Institutions, Sri Hosmutt, Mysuru:** Special puja to Sri Gurushanta Mahaswamiji Gaddige, **6 am;** Linga Deeksha, **9 am;** Akkamahadevi Jayanti celebrations, Sharane Jayadevitayi graces the occasion, Rangayana Deputy Director Nirmala Mathapati inaugurates, KIKS Visiting Professor Preethi Shubhachandra delivers lecture on 'Akkana Adhyatma mattu Kuvempu Grihatapasvini Madari,' Vachana Gayana by Choodamani and troupe, **4.30 pm;** Staging of play 'Sankrati' by students of Sri Nataraja B.Ed College, Sri Nataraja Educational Institutions, Sri Hosmutt, Khille Mohalla, **7 pm.**
- **Geography Alumni Association, Department of Studies (DoS) in Geography, Manasagangothri:** Inauguration of the Alumni Association by University of Mysore VC Prof. N.K. Lokanath, DoS in Geography Chairman and Association Gen. Secretary Prof. P. Jayashree welcomes, University of Mysore Registrar V.R. Shylaja delivers special talk, Association President Prof. C. Chowdaiah presides, auditorium, II Floor, DoS in Geography, Manasagangothri, **11 am.**
- **Sri Raghavendra Swamy Seva Samiti:** Discourse on 'Jagannathadasa's Harikathamrutasara' by Pt. Muralidharadas, Sri Raghavendraswamy Mutt premises, Jayalaksmipuram, **5 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Bharatanatyam by Vidu. Samyukta, **6.15 pm;** Bharatanatyam by Vidu. Varija Naligi, Ganabharathi, Adichunchanagiri Road, Kuvempunagar, **7.15 pm to 8.15 pm.**

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

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Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	(S-2)	11.50 am, 2.30 pm, 5.10 pm 7.50 pm, 10.30 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te-3D)	(S-1)	9.50 am, 12.50 pm 6.50 pm, 9.50 pm
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	(S-3)	10.40 am, 4.05 pm, 9.30 pm
Undenaama (K)	(S-3)	1.25 pm, 6.50 pm
Rudhran (Ta)	(S-4)	12.25 pm, 6.55 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te)	(S-1)	3.50 pm
Pookkaalam (Ma)	(S-4)	10.00 pm
John Wick: Chapter 4 (E)	(S-4)	3.30 pm
Trailer Screen in Schedule	(S-4)	11.30 am

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob. : 9606976757

Shivaji Surathkal 2 (K)	(S-2)	11 am, 1.40 pm, 4.20, 7 pm
	(S-3)	9.50 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te-3D)	(S-3)	10.20 am, 4.20 pm 7.20 pm, 10.20 pm
Gurudev Hoysala (K)	(S-1)	1.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Rudran (Ta)	(S-4)	10.40 am; (S-1) 3.50 pm
Undenaama (K)	(S-1)	10.25 am, 7.50 pm
Shaakuntalam (Te)	(S-3)	1.20 pm
Maariguddada Gaddadharigalu (K)	(S-4)	1.45 pm
Madanolsavam (Ma)	(S-4)	7.25 pm
Corona Papers (Ma)	(S-4)	10.10 pm
Trailer Schedule	(S-1)	6.55 pm
Praveena (K)	(S-4)	4.45 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

IPL 2023

TODAY'S MATCHES (APRIL 20)

PBKS Vs **RCB** — 3.30 pm
Punjab Cricket Association
IS Bindra Stadium, Mohali

DC Vs **KKR** — 7.30 pm
Arun Jaitley Cricket
Stadium, Delhi

TOMORROW'S MATCH (APRIL 21)

CSK Vs **SRH** — 7.30 pm
M.A. Chidambaram Stadium,
Chennai

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

LSG - 154 / 7 (20)
BEAT
RR - 144 / 6 (20)

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